

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Timothy C. Bradley, #59,497, on 3/9/10.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

3. **Claims 1-3, 9, 13, 14, 20-27, and 29 are canceled.**
4. **Claims 4-8 are amended** as follows:

CLAIM 4. (Currently Amended) The method assembly as recited in claim 15 wherein the metal tube is aluminum.

CLAIM 5. (Currently Amended) The method assembly as recited in claim 15 wherein the material flowed into the first notch and the second notch ~~retainer~~ is plastic.

CLAIM 6. (Currently Amended) The method assembly as recited in claim 15 wherein the step of inserting the fluid port into the metal tube is performed such that an annular collar of the fluid port abuts a flared end of the metal tube ~~the fluid port is inserted into the tube, and the fluid port includes an annular collar and the tube includes a flared end that abuts the annular collar.~~

CLAIM 7. (Currently Amended) The method assembly as recited in claim 6 wherein the step of retaining the fluid port to the metal tube includes molding a retainer is molded over the annular collar of the fluid port and the flared end of the tube.

CLAIM 8. (Currently Amended) The method assembly as recited in claim 15 wherein the step of locating a seal between the metal tube and the fluid port includes the step of receiving the seal into at least one annular recess of the fluid port ~~that receives the seal.~~

IN THE DRAWINGS:

5. The following changes to the drawings have been approved by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

a. Figure 1 will be amended by Applicant to show only a first notch in the fluid port and a second notch in the metal tube.

6. In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE:

7. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claim 15, the prior art of record does not teach or suggest a method of assembling a fluid connection comprising the steps of: attaching a fluid port of a plastic housing to a metal tube along a longitudinal axis; locating a seal between the metal tube and the fluid port; forming a first notch in the fluid port and a second notch in the metal tube; retaining the fluid port to the metal tube; and preventing rotation between the fluid port of the plastic housing and the metal tube about the longitudinal axis by flowing a material into the first notch and the second notch during the step of retaining the fluid port to the metal tube.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONCLUSION:

8. Usui et al and Barclay et al are being cited to show examples of fluid connection assemblies with a housing, a tube, a seal, a retainer and a locating feature having at least one notch.

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Fannie Kee whose telephone number is (571) 272-1820. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Aaron M Dunwoody/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3679

/F. K./
Examiner, Art Unit 3679
March 17, 2010